

EAST SUFFOLK

# BUSINESS

## AWARDS 2025

### **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF ENTERING FOR A SUFFOLK CHAMBER - EAST SUFFOLK BUSINESS AWARD?**

- Maximise the visibility of your business. Winning an award is a powerful tool to raise your profile and make an impression for your business throughout the East Suffolk community.
- Grow your network - The East Suffolk Business Awards Gala Evening is a great place to build relationships with other organisations within the county and discover new opportunities to explore in the year ahead.
- Free marketing - Being shortlisted improves brand awareness and promotes your business.
- You will receive an image/logo to say you are a finalist or a winner – you can use this on marketing materials/emails/socials.
- Celebrating hard work and success are great PR opportunities.
- Winning an East Suffolk Chamber Award could help your company to stand out from the crowd and could put you a step ahead of your competitors.
- Increase credibility – a win is a sign of quality and recognised achievement for potential customers.
- Boost morale – winning an award feels great. Employees will feel proud of being part of the business. Show your employees how much you value their hard work and accomplishments! The buzz of winning an award can be a big motivator and it may also attract new recruits.

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### IS IT FREE TO ENTER?

Yes

### WHEN SHOULD I ENTER?

Entries open on Monday 7 July and will close midnight on Sunday 31 August 2025.

Take your time writing your entries and ensure you meet the criteria as best as you can. Please don't rush your entry or leave it till the last minute to enter!

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Our awards are open to all businesses, no matter size or sector as long as you are based in East Suffolk ([see map](#))

All applicants must be authorised to enter their business into the awards.

### CAN I ENTER MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY?

Yes

### WHICH AWARD CATEGORY/CATEGORIES DO I ENTER?

Review the criteria for each category to see what fits your business best.

Our criteria questions are listed on the [award categories](#) section.

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## HOW DO I ENTER?

After reading about the award category on our website, download our application form and try and meet the criteria as best as possible.

Please ensure you include testimonials, tables, graphs, photos as evidence where applicable in your entry.

Please note: Information from your entry may be used in our hosts speech on the evening if you are a finalist.

All information you provide will be treated in confidence by Suffolk Chamber and our respective judges/category sponsors.

## HOW DO I SUBMIT MY ENTRY

Email to: **[events@suffolkchamber.co.uk](mailto:events@suffolkchamber.co.uk)**

or post to:

**Michelle Gardner**  
**Suffolk Chamber of Commerce**  
**Riverside Business Centre**  
**Riverside Road**  
**Lowestoft**  
**Suffolk NR33 0TQ**

## WHO AM I COMPETING WITH?

The awards are open to all business in East Suffolk, covering all sizes and sectors (unless stipulated)

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### **WHEN WILL JUDGING TAKE PLACE?**

After all entries have been received, they will be collated during the first week of September 2025 and will be sent to the award category sponsors who will judge their own categories.

In entering for an award, you are not guaranteed to be shortlisted.

Our category sponsors will judge your entry on your content provided, but please note they may ask to visit your business as part of their judging process. The sponsors have the right to seek support from the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce.

The judge's decision is final, and no conversation will be entered into

### **WHEN ARE SHORTLISTS ADVISED?**

Late September 2025.

### **IF I GET SHORTLISTED WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

Shortlisted/finalists will be contacted to advise they are shortlisted.

Once all have been advised we will then announce on our social channels.

Each finalist business will receive a 'shortlisted/finalist logo'

### **CELEBRATING EAST SUFFOLKS BUSINESS COMMUNITY**

Our Awards Gala Evening takes place on Thursday 6 November 2025 at Ivy House Country Hotel, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Please keep the 6 November free as you will be required to attend the gala evening, if you are a finalist.



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### **CELEBRATING EAST SUFFOLKS BUSINESS COMMUNITY...**

Each finalist business will be given one complimentary ticket to our Awards Gala Evening, if your business is a finalist in more than two categories - a maximum of two complimentary tickets will be given.

You will be able to purchase additional tickets or a table for our Gala Evening for guests and colleagues before general sale.

### **IS THERE A DRESS CODE FOR THE GALA EVENING?**

The event is black tie/evening attire

### **IF I WIN ON THE EVENING, WHAT HAPPENS?**

No more than two representatives from your business will accept the award at the front of the room from the category sponsor and then have photographs taken, before returning to your seats.

All Winners are automatically entered into the Suffolk Chamber Presidents Award category, the final award of the evening.

Please note photos taken during the evening may be used in our post awards press and promotional features.

### **IF I WIN, DO I MAKE A SPEECH?**

No.

### **IF I WIN, WILL I RECEIVE A PHYSICAL AWARD?**

Yes, you'll be presented with an award.

After the event you'll receive a winner's logo for you to use on marketing materials, emails and socials.